THE

# BRITISH CRITIC,

FOR

JULY, AUGUST, SEPTEMBER, OCTOBER, NOVEMBER, DECEMBER.

MDCCCXIII.

I, decus, i, nostrum; melioribus utere fatis.
VIRG.

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# PREFACE.

BETWEEN the gloom that overhung the country, when we began our critical career, and the bright and brightening prospects which are now opening on every side, there is as strong a contrast as the nature of human affairs can well present. Nor was the gloom easily dispersed, or long before it returned. It was succeeded by storms which shook the whole fabric of civilized Europe to its base, and threatened to overwhelm all distinction, all justice, all liberty, under the irresistible pressure of military despotism. It would not have been easy to bend the spirit of Britons to the yoke; but if every other power had yielded, our contest would have been most unequal; and, though indefinitely prolonged, could hardly have been animated by hope.

Our sentiments, our wishes, and fears, at various periods in this tremendous struggle, have been frequently recorded in our half-yearly prefaces. But never, in the course of twenty years, have we seen a moment when the return of order and of social happiness was so strongly promised, as at present. Under such circumstances, they who originally planned, supported, and have hitherto conducted the BRITISH CRITIC, are about to retire from the charge; and they



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do it with the more satisfaction, as they resign it into the hands of persons eminently qualified to sustain whatever contest may still be demanded, in behalf of CHURCH and STATE. They retire also with the pleasing consciousness of never having committed or sanctioned wilful injustice. We know that our journal has been censured as too mild; but, for those who can stoop to purchase popularity by unfair censure, and cruel sarcasm, we envy not the state of their consciences; ours would never stretch to such indulgences. One maxim has invariably been our guide; that we would never say, or suffer to be said, of any author or his work, what we would not avow to his face, as man to man, gentleman to gentleman, or christian to christian, if we should chance to meet him in society. We are much mistaken, if this maxim would not extinguish a great part of the wit of some more favoured journals.

## DIVINITY.

The renewed intercourse with the continent, which the present great political events have already in part effected, enables us to look back with greater pleasure towards *Mr. Baber's* specimen of the Alexandrian MS. given in his very accurate edition of *the Psalter* *. Laborious as the task must be to complete the whole in the same manner, the editor does not shrink from it; and the patronage of foreign universities, princes, and opulent individuals, added to that of our own country, may easily make the design practicable. It will be adviseable, as soon as any thing is settled, to circulate the proposals on the continent. How desirable it is that such a work should be carried on to its completion, we have

* No. I. p. 1.

already

already ſtated at large. *Mr. Mant's Bampton Lectures* *, on which we made our report with much ſatisfaction, offer one of thoſe ſound and well-timed defences of the church, which will make the preſent period be referred to hereafter, as one of thoſe in which her genuine ſons were moſt judiciouſly active in her cauſe. The fame of her original ſupporters can never ſuffer diminution or eclipſe; but it is no ſmall honour to her living ſons, that they can form a phalanx, fit to march in the ſame ſteps, and wield the ſame ſacred weapons, with which their predeceſſors triumphed.

As we ſhall be obliged to make a claſs of Morality, it may ſeem that to it ſhould be referred *Mrs. H. More's* work, entitled *Chriſtian Morals* †: but ſo cloſely are chriſtian morals connected with Chriſtian faith and doctrine, and with ſuch peculiar care is the connection preſerved by that author, that we cannot with propriety remove her book from its higher ſtation under theology. The characteriſtic of the work indeed is pious feeling, and the ſingular art of communicating that feeling, by views of the ſubject alike original and juſt. We ſhould almoſt deſpair of the ſtate of that mind, which could peruſe the Chriſtian Morals, without any beneficial effect.

In *Mr. Sikes* we hail another defender of the Church, on one of thoſe grounds where the ignorance as well as the laxity of the times occaſions the moſt frequent attacks. His book on *Parochial Communion* ‡ explains the due connection between a miniſter and his pariſh; and demonſtrates clearly, that ſeparation from the pariſh-church is far from being ſo light a thing as it is too commonly eſteemed; being expoſed, when wilful and obſtinate, to the juſt imputation of ſchiſm. That is, of a ſin which the apoſtles themſelves have ſtrongly marked for reprobation. Of

* No. III. p. 237. † No. I. p. 6.
‡ No. IV. p. 367.

*Mr. Thruſton's* work on the *Apocalypſe* *, it may ſeem ſtrange to ſay that it appears to have received ſome degree of confirmation from the late ſucceſſes of the Allies. He ſees, or thinks he ſees, in that ſacred book, the ſecurity and ultimate triumph of the Church of England. We dare not pronounce that he is right, however we may wiſh to think ſo; but we can ſay now, what we could not have ſaid a month ago, that we clearly ſee how poſſible it is that ſuch may be the event †. *Mr. Powlett's* book of *Reaſons* ‡, addreſſed to his children, affords a view of ſome evidences of chriſtianity, which may be uſeful to other readers; and eſpecially by its references to more elaborate works.

Among leſs extended works in Divinity, we have to notice the *Biſhop of Ely's Primary Charge* §; a diſcourſe well ſuited to the occaſion, and indicating a truly paſtoral care in the Biſhop. Another *Charge* from *Archdeacon Daubeny* ‖, whoſe praiſe has long been in the Church, and in our pages, offers, upon the great queſtion of the Catholic Claims, ſome very important obſervations. We truſt that it will be well conſidered, wherever thoſe claims are diſcuſſed with authority. In the *Viſitation Sermon* publiſhed by *Mr. Giſborne* ¶, the moſt important inſtructions are given, in the moſt impreſſive manner. The light in which the preacher places "the ſpirit of fear, of power, of love, and of a ſound mind," mentioned by St. Paul, in his ſecond Epiſtle to Timothy, ſhows that he had amply contemplated the ſubject, and had drawn from the ſacred text every thing that it could

* No. VI. p. 593.

† Unleſs prevented by a premature peace. While writing this, we have been juſt informed that the preliminaries propoſed by the Allies have been accepted. As this event tends to ſecure our implacable enemy on his throne, from which he ſeemed to be falling, we can but regard it with apprehenſion.

‡ No. IV. p. 422. § No. IV. p. 339. ‖ No. IV. p. 423.
¶ No. II. p. 202.

properly

properly teach. We find *Mr. Mant* * again, in this department of our Preface, and concurring with *Mr. Keysall* †, in recommending that most excellent and patriotic plan, the NATIONAL SCHOOLS. An anonymous writer on *Fasting* ‡, gave us some satisfaction; and *Mr. Drew's* argument, for the Divinity of our Saviour §, evinced the continuance of those powers of mind which we have formerly commended. *Mr. Bentley* ‖, in his proper, though humble, remonstrance, against the very indecent practice of sitting during the time of public prayers, displays the genuine feelings of a pious mind; and we hope that the subject will be followed up by preachers, wherever the offence is observed.

## MORALITY.

*Madame de Staël's* morality is not indeed quite detached from religion, in her little work *on Suicide* ¶, since she expressly states that crime to be inconsistent with Christian principles. Her reasonings, however, are chiefly moral, and they are honourable to her understanding and her candour. *Spurinna* **, on being compared with its professed model, Cicero on Old Age, will show triumphantly the superiority of Christian to Heathen Morality. What the Roman Orator produced was admirable, like other effusions of his exalted genius and refined intellect; but there are principles, which, if he could have learned them, as his modern follower has, would have made him happier, as well as wiser. The little tract on *Female Dress* ††, which we stated to have gone to nine editions, must be yet more widely circulated, before it can produce its due effect. Patronized by the pre-

* No. V. p. 529. † No. VI. p. 621. ‡ No. V. p. 521.
§ No. VI. p. 624. ‖ No. I. p. 89.
¶ No. III. p. 309. ** No. V. p. 512. †† No. IV. p. 420.

sumptive heiress to the British Crown, we may hope to see it thus successful.

## HISTORY.

Having concluded our Remarks on *Milner's History of the Church*, we reserved for this volume to sum up our final opinion on the latest edition of *Mosheim* *. The new parts of the work, by *Dr. Coote* and *Bishop Gleig*, were strictly all that we were called upon to notice; if we deviated from that line in order to convey a greater portion of instruction, we trust that we shall not be thought to have done amiss. With respect to the additional parts, they are in general deserving of our praise. *Mr. Butler's History of the Revolutions of Germany* † is short but correct. We trust it will now want a supplemental part, to mark the restoration of Germanic power to the Emperor of Austria. That formidable campaign, in which the seeds of all these better hopes were sown, the Russian campaign of 1812, is delineated with vivacity and truth by *Sir R. K. Porter* ‡; and such a picture was never given to the world, as certainly such an original never before existed to be drawn.

## BIOGRAPHY.

If we take the lives we have lately reviewed in the order of Chronology, the first will be that of *Cardinal Wolsey*. This great statesman has had several biographers, but *Mr. Galt* §, who last assumed that office, has attempted to consider the subject more philosophically than his predecessors; and even to

* No. I. p. 31. and II. p. 141. † No. I. p. 79.
‡ No. II. p. 182. § No. VI. p. 586.

imitate

imitate the sententious style of Tacitus. A laudable ambition, and in some degree successful. The *Life of Knox*, the Scotch reformer, by *Mr. or Dr. M'Crie* *, has been the subject of so many animadversions from us, that our readers may not perhaps expect to find it placed within our gallery of approved works. That we do not wholly approve of it is evident from what we have said; because the author's prejudices against establishments have led him to treat that subject with unfairness; as, we conceive, we have fully shown. But that he is a writer of merit, and that his Life of Knox is, in many respects, a valuable book, we by no means wish to deny. The portrait of *Bossuet* is the next in the gallery, and it is drawn with many skilful touches, by *Mr. C. Butler* †, not altogether without private views, but in such a way as to deserve and command attention. It is however of small extent. A miniature Life of *Lord Nelson* was also wanting, to be a manual for the rising seaman to accompany his toils, and to stimulate his emulation. This task *Mr. Southey* ‡ has performed with judgment, and if he had only condescended to borrow from the Muse of another, some of those admirable lyrics by which this hero's death was celebrated §, nothing would be wanting to the impression which it was desirable to produce. How long the Life of *William Windham*, by *Mr. Amyot* ‖, may possess an interest among his countrymen, it is not easy to foretell. To us, who remember his person, and knew his various talents and virtues, it is of considerable value; and forms a record, the want of which would make a grievous chasm in our collection. *Mr. Cooke*, the justly celebrated actor, would have deserved an ample record, had the native powers of his mind been matured by moral or even polite culture. As it was,

* No. IV. p. 343. V. p. 446. VI. p. 554. † No. V. p. 522.
‡ No. IV. p. 360. § By Mr. Croker. ‖ No. I. p. 25.

his

his biographer, *Mr. Dunlap* *, has little less to lament than to commend, and the whole portrait by no means exhibits a favourable view of human nature. But they who would contemplate a monster, such, as we hope, human nature seldom produces, must read the Life of *Thomas Cooke*, the miser, to which if the name of its author *Mr. Chamberlaine* † did not give testimony, it would be difficult to assign its due degree of credibility. Such lives are written, not for example, but for warning.

## ANTIQUITIES.

Long, very long, deferred, and almost determined to be finally past by, *Mr. Davies's Celtic Researches and Rites of the British Druids* ‡, were at length brought forward in our pages. This was occasioned by the unexpected assistance of an antiquary, deeply versed in the Welch language, and in every branch of learning connected with those enquiries. Such an advantage could not have been expected; but we trust that our readers have acknowledged the benefit of it; and have admired, with us, the candour, as well as the sagacity of the reviewer. Another important branch of British Antiquities has been most splendidly illustrated by *Sir Richard Hoare*; who, by carefully examining the numerous barrows, or sepulchral mounds, existing in *South Wiltshire* §, has produced a mass of knowledge as original as it is curious. The numerous and admirable Plates, by which the work is illustrated, leave nothing for the reader to doubt, or to misapprehend; and we have only to hope that his researches in the northern parts of the same county, will prove equally fruitful and

* No. V. p. 534. † No. V. p. 523. ‡ No. I. p. 50. II. p. 123. See also Vol. xli. p. 321. § No. VI. p. 542.

 satisfactory.

ſatisfactory. No age before the preſent could produce a work on antiquities ſo elegant and pleaſing as that of *Mr. Britton, on Redcliffe Church** at Briſtol. The numerous recollections, which now attach themſelves to that ſingular and elegant ſtructure, will be ſure to preſerve the work, which judiciouſly deſcribes it, from falling into oblivion. We have no doubt, on the contrary, that every paſſing year will materially enhance its value.

The republication of the *Harleian Miſcellany*, with notes by *Mr. Park* †, was in itſelf a well planned enterpriſe: but when we conſider that two entire volumes of curious matter, not before collected, have been added by the Editor, we cannot too highly eſtimate the value of the augmented work. To what had been before printed, the notes of Mr. Park give new value; his ſupplemental volumes afford a proof of his judgment, as well as of his antiquarian knowledge. They who cannot find entertainment in *Mr. Malcolm's* account of the *Manners and Cuſtoms of London* ‡ muſt be either very faſtidious or very ſtupid. It is not indeed a work of deep reſearch or profound ſagacity, but it is a compilation of curious facts, ſufficiently explained and illuſtrated. The antiquities of our common Calendar are not within the reach of every inquirer, and *Mr. Brady* has therefore performed an acceptable ſervice, by collecting in his *Clavis* §, a vaſt variety of curious and intereſting particulars. If his work is not every thing that could be wiſhed upon the ſubject, it might eaſily be made ſo, by a freſh reference to authorities, and regular citation of them.

* No. V. p. 315. † No. IV. p. 384. ‡ No. II. p. 180.
§ No. III. p. 261.

## TOPOGRAPHY.

We have seen, with great satisfaction, the conclusion of *Mr. Carlisle's* arduous and truly valuable work on the Topography of the United Kingdom *, of which the Dictionary *for Scotland* †, is the crown and the completion. Every thing that is wanted, for books of authoritative reference, is here united. They who expect florid and descriptive details must seek them where they may with more propriety be expected. We regret nothing but the high price of the volumes; not that we blame it, knowing that at first it could not well be avoided; but because it excludes so many persons who might wish to be purchasers. Another evil will arise, unless cheaper editions can be brought forward, namely, the compilation and circulation of inferior works, at a lower price, to the detriment of the author and publisher of these, and to the loss of the public, in not having the best authorities for common use. A more comprehensive view of Ireland was still wanting, and one which should combine an account of the advantages and disadvantages, natural and artificial, belonging to the country; the state of its productions, agriculture, property, commerce, manufactures, and every thing that interests the rational enquirer. This *Mr. Wakefield* ‡ seems, by talent and research, most admirably calculated to supply, had not one or two particular questions had the unfortunate effect, of destroying his candour and confusing his perceptions, and lastly even of putting an end to his communications. But for this misfortune, and some very futile attempts at meteorological philosophy, his work would have been of the highest value.

* See, for the Dictionary of *England*, Vol. xxxii. p. 376, of *Ireland*, xxxvi. 369, of *Wales*, xxxviii. 70.

† No. I. p. 43. ‡ *Account of Ireland*, No. V. p. 429.

VOYAGES

## Voyages and Travels.

The very admirable work of *Mr. Macdonald Kinneir, on Persia* *, though entitled a *Geographical Memoir*, comes exactly within the description of this class; for his book is the result of his own actual travels, the particular circumstances of which are often interwoven with it. If any thing more complete can be expected, it must be from the pen of *Sir John Malcolm* and *Sir W. Ouseley*, who have traversed the same ground, with the eye of antiquaries as well as of geographers.

*Captain Burney's* valuable work, on *Voyages of Discovery* †, continues to deserve the high character, which it obtained from its commencement; and leaves the reader nothing to wish, but success to the completion of the plan. The two accounts of *the Russian Embassy to Japan* ‡, as throwing light upon that little empire, which has so wisely shut out from its intercourse the more domineering powers of the earth, are full of peculiar interest, "Japan," says her sagacious Emperor, "has no great *wants*, and therefore little occasion for foreign productions; her few *real* wants, as well as those she has contracted by custom, are richly supplied by the Dutch and Chinese; and luxuries are things she does not wish to see introduced." Nothing of ancient wisdom is much superior to this §: and when we see that the monarch

* No. II. p. 97.

† No. IV. p. 317. ‡ No. V. p. 462.

§ It reminds us of a most admirable dialogue between Mago the Carthaginian, and the philosopher Empedocles, on the subject of foreign luxuries, pretended to be found in an ancient Greek MS. but probably invented by the original Editor *Cerniani* of Venice. See p. vii. of the preface to the learned and excellent collection of the Remains of Empedocles, published by M. Fr. G. Sturz, at Leipsic, in 2 vols. 8vo. 1805.

declines coſtly preſents, becauſe his country is too poor to return an equivalent, and too dignified to receive favours which ſhe cannot return, we cannot ſufficiently admire the firmneſs and conſiſtency of her conduct. The works are both admirably tranſlated.

The travels of *Dr. Pouqueville*, tranſlated from the French by *Miſs Plumptre* *, are entertaining; and ſo are the Letters of our countryman, *Mr. Blaquiere* †, written nearly from the ſame parts: neither, however, throws any important lights upon a ſubject exhauſted by perpetual details of a ſimilar kind. *Mr. Macgill's* account of *Tunis* ‡, though ſhort is valuable from its accuracy, being founded on enquiries which few have an opportunity to make; and from authorities to which ſtill fewer travellers have acceſs. The poſthumous work of *Dr. Irvine* on *Sicily* §, is alſo a book of authority; and contains, as far as it is completed, the obſervations of an acute, enlightened, and ſcientific mind, made under the moſt favourable circumſtances. *Mr. Moor's* curious book on *Hindu Infanticide* ‖, though written chiefly with a view to that horrid cuſtom, and to the ſteps which he had humanely taken to prevent it, is one of thoſe productions which are beſt calculated to throw light on the ſtate of native India, being the reſult of long and accurate perſonal knowledge.

From the eaſt, we muſt turn ſuddenly to the extremities of the north, to renew our commendation of the admirable travels of *Mr. Von Buch*, through *Norway and Lapland* ¶; by no means forgetting the merits of the tranſlator *Mr. Black*; and ſtill leſs of the annotator, and very judicious and learned illuſtrator Profeſſor *Jameſon*, a volume ſo rich in original information is not often preſented to the public. *Mr. Green's Journal* of his route, from London to

* No. VI. p. 605. † No. V. p. 536. ‡ No. II. p. 197.
§ No. III. p. 253. ‖ No. I. p. 18. ¶ No. VI. p. 581.

Peterſburg,

Peterſburg *, may occaſionally be uſeful and agreeable to thoſe who have the ſame track to purſue. Even the poor and neglected iſland of *Iceland*, under the deſcription of *Mr. Hooker* †, poſſeſſes that which may enliven deſcription, and reward the attention of the reader. *Ireland*, however frequently deſcribed, has means to intereſt our curioſity, and *Mr. Hall's Tour* ‡, may afford both amuſement and inſtruction to thoſe who chooſe to trace his ſteps.

## Physics.

We ſhall borrow one book from the preceding claſs, to ſtand at the head of this, being an account of Travels undertaken ſolely with ſcientific views. Such are the *Geological Travels* of the venerable and excellent *M. De Luc* §, in which he purſues the ſame important inveſtigations on the Continent, which he had formerly deſcribed as carried on in Britain. It muſt doubtleſs be ſatisfactory to him to ſee his favourite ſtudy, a ſcience to which he has almoſt given birth, made the bond of union to a reſpectable Society, whoſe labours have already produced a volume of very valuable materials. The *Tranſactions* of the *Geological Society* ‖, will aſſuredly bear an honourable rank among publications of that claſs, and we feel a ſtrong perſuaſion that they will conſiderably improve in goodneſs as they increaſe in number. There is much, even for the beſt informed, to learn in the curious ſubject of Geology. How far the Wernerian mineralogiſts may be able to defend their maſter againſt the attacks of *Mr. Chene-*

* No. I. p. 91. † No. I. p. 87.
‡ No. IV. p. 425. § No. V. p. 490. ‖ No. III. p. 209.

*vix*,

*vix* *, we cannot presume to say, but to us his *Observations* carried conviction, in favour of Haüy, against Werner.

One solitary work on Natural History requires at present to be mentioned, which is *Mr. Walton's* very accurate and clear account of the *Peruvian Sheep* †; with the explanation of their value, and the probabilities of being able to naturalize them in this country. It should be added, that every former naturalist, not excepting our lamented friend Dr. Shaw, has fallen into material errors respecting these animals. But Mr. Walton, by a long residence in the country, has matured and completed his knowledge of them. We are to expect from him, in future, an account of Peru itself; which, from what we see in this small volume, we should expect to be extremely valuable.

## LAW.

The chief part of the tracts, which we shall notice at present under this head, will be such as agitate the great question of preserving our constitution Protestant, as it is, or making it a motley mixture of that and Popery, leaving either to prevail as accident may direct. Of these we have noticed so many which advocate the continuance of our present state, and all with just commendation, that, instead of attempting to characterize them separately, we shall merely repeat the list. We refer our readers then, with confidence, to *Dr. Hales's* Letters to *Dr. Troy* ‡, to the Correspondence on the *Roman Catholic Bible Society* §, to a tract entitled *a full View of the Roman Catholic Question* ‖; to the *Resolutions of the Protestant*

* No. IV. p. 419. † No. III. p. 399.
‡ No. I. p. 83. § No. I. p. 85. ‖ No. III. p. 303.

*Union*,

*Union* *; to *Lord Coke's* reprinted *Charge*; and the *Address of the Protestant Union* † to *the Arguments for and against Catholic Emancipation* ‡, (as it is wickedly and deceitfully called) the *Analysis of Mr. Canning's Speech* §; to *the Securities for the Established Religion considered* ‖; to the *Protestant Letter* of the *Bishop of Gloucester* ¶; and to *the Rights of the Church attested by Historical Documents* **. We do not indeed assert that all these publications treat strictly of the question of law, or are all of equal merit: but that they are all, in our opinion, of some consequence, as having more or less bearing upon that question, and throwing light, directly or indirectly, upon its general merits. Our wish was to notice every thing which had this tendency; and though we fear this has not been completely effected; yet certainly a valuable collection of arguments and illustrations is even here referred to.

On the professional part of Law we have nothing at present to notice; but we must not omit to point out a sensible publication on the subject of *Copy-right* ††, giving the most powerful reasons why the Act of *Queen Anne*, on that subject, should be modified and improved; and showing how oppressive the act would be, both to publishers and authors, if enforced in its present state. This is a question too important to literature not to interest all who write, or mean to write.

Not to make a new class for one book only, we shall here mention the valuable collection of *Bishop Horsley's Speeches* ‡‡. As they treat in general of laws, either passed, or proposed to be passed, they certainly have a near connection with this article of our Preface. Much as we have been accustomed to look up with admiration to the distinguished talents

* No. II. p. 200. † No. II. p. 200. ‡ No. III. p. 304.
§ No. III. p. 305. ‖ No. III. p. 307. ¶ No. IV. p. 394.
** No. V. p. 527.
†† No. VI. p. 623. ‡‡ No. II. p. 170. III. p. 221.

of Bishop Horsley, they here beam upon us with new light. More bold and manly sense, more legislative knowledge and sagacity, more true political wisdom, cannot easily be found in so small a compass than in this volume of the Bishop's Parliamentary speeches. Nor was it, we confess, a small satisfaction to observe, that the sentiments of this great man, on giving power to Catholics, exactly coincide with those to which we give our full and hearty assent. They had, through mistake, been otherwise represented. The earnest desire of the Bishop to give a full and perfect toleration, had been interpreted into a wish to give power and authority, which is a question totally different. In both, we perfectly agree with him.

## Medicine.

A few medical publications, more remarkable for value than bulk, have been noticed in our present volume. These, as we see no particular reason for taking them in any other order, we shall mention as they stand in our own pages. The first of these by *Dr. Gibney** is on a subject very interesting to almost every reader, the *use and abuse of cold and warm sea bathing*. The resort to the sea for such purposes has long been so general, that a few sagacious instructions upon the subject must be very generally acceptable. Of *Mr. Burns's* book on subjects connected with *Midwifery* †, we spoke well, as a book, though we doubted the utility of the publication. Ignorance, however, will too often attempt to act, in such cases, and if it will, to have such an aid at hand may be of great importance. *Mr. Whitsted's* book on *Siphilis* ‡ may also suggest beneficial advice. The case of *Hydrophobia*, published by *Mr.*

* No. I. p. 82. † No. II. p. 199. ‡ No. III. p. 301.

*Wynn*,

*Wynne* *, is the more satisfactory, as it strengthens the hopes, already excited by the practice of Dr. Schoolbred in the East-Indies, that a real cure may at length be ascertained for that most deplorable of accidental maladies.

Professional readers will see with particular satisfaction, that the investigation of *Cutaneous Diseases* so well commenced by Dr. Willan, has been with skill and success pursued by *Dr. Bateman* †. As the friend and pupil of Dr. Willan this author began his work with advantage, and has proved himself well qualified to avail himself of that situation. The use of the *Dolichos pruriens*, or *Cowhage* as an *anthelmintic* medicine, has for some time been adopted by the best practitioners; and *Mr. Chamberlaine* ‡ has performed a public service by making its merits more known, and directing the mode of prescribing. The cases must be very inveterate where its effects are not highly beneficial.

## LITERATURE.

The Letters between *Mr. Fox* and *Gilbert Wakefield* § are altogether of a literary kind, and very pleasing they are for that reason. If neither of the writers had ever meddled with any other subject, it would have been happier for themselves, and, in our opinion, better for the country. Mr. Fox would have been undoubtedly a scholar of the first genius, taste, and sagacity; and would have been immortalized with the Bentlies, and Porsons of his country: or he would have been also a distinguished poet, if he had given his talents that direction. Wakefield would always have been a hasty and injudicious

* No. IV. p. 414. † No. IV. p. 415.
‡ No. V. p. 521. § No. III. p. 285.

critic; but he would have done no harm to himself or others.

The other books, which we can here arrange, belong only to the branch of education. Such are *Dr. Valpy's* Greek *Delectus* *, a work much wanted, and very admirably executed; *Mr. Grant's English Grammar* †, the production, certainly, of a diligent and able teacher; and lastly, *Mr. Dymock's* school edition of *Cæsar* ‡, in which more elucidation is compressed within a small compass, than can often be found in an edition of any author.

The volume which *Mr. Iremonger* has published on the system *of the National Schools* § may here be noticed, though it belongs to a lower species of education. But it is calculated to be extensively useful, which is the best of all recommendations.

## Poetry.

We have here, as usual, a rich display; and shall only mention those that are most remarkable. We begin with *Mr. Scott's Rokeby* ‖, a poem of which, whatever opinion may be formed, while the author is compared only with himself, no possible doubt can exist concerning its rank among poetical narratives. It abounds, like the other poems of Mr. Scott, with vivid descriptions, accurate delineation of characters, and well imagined original situations. As a truly poetical narrative, in a very different style of composition, we do not hesitate to place by the side of this the anonymous poem of *The Missionary* ¶. Of the author we shall only say, as the youth in Terence says of his unknown mistress,

ubi, ubi est, celari diu non potest.

* No. III. p. 300. † No. I. p. 82. ‡ No. III. p. 300.
§ No. V. p. 525. ‖ No. II. p. 110. ¶ No. VI. p. 598.

So

So much talent cannot long lie hid, and if commendation cannot extort discovery nothing else can. To *Mr. Montgomery*, whenever he has been offered to our notice, we have always given the most cordial praises; and we think that his volume lately published *, confirms and establishes his claims. Here also is included a narrative poem, of high merit, entitled, *the World before the Flood.*

To *Lord Byron* we have given a short but forcible testimony of our applause, for his eccentric *Giaour* †; we doubt not that he will continue to write with equal success. *Miss Mitford's* pleasing volume of *Narrative Poems* ‡, is an earnest of future amusement of a similar kind. Her style of versification, in the longer Poem, is that of Lord Byron, or W. Scott; in the second that of Spenser. In both she is successful. The Satire, not very appositely named *Hypocrisy*, denotes great vigour in the author, *Mr. Colton* §, and offends chiefly by redundancy. With more experience, we doubt not that he will do whatever we can wish in this line of composition. That *Dr. Bidlake* can divert the gloom of blindness, by the ideal visions of the muses, who will not rejoice, that has but heard of his misfortune? nor is this sufficient, let us add the hope, that the talent which alleviates his sorrow, may also contribute essentially to his support, and that his *Year* ‖, may sell as extensively as any poem of its time!

Though chiefly translated, or imitated from Greek poems, we cannot but speak highly of the selection from the *Anthologia*, which *Mr. Bland* first published singly, and now with many ingenious colleagues ¶. If any thing can give the mere English reader an idea of the elegance of the originals, it must be such a collection of imitations. To *Mr. Maurice* we shall

* No. V. p. 518.
† No. VI. p. 611. ‡ No. III. p. 230. § No. IV. p. 328.
‖ No. III. p. 281. ¶ No. II. p. 159.

give

give the praiſe of having ſung our famous gothic church at Weſtminſter *, in a manner very far from gothic. The poems he has united with that firſt certainly deſerved republication. Concerning *Mr. Park's* edition of *Ritſon's Engliſh Songs* †, we cannot ſay leſs, than that the work has received conſiderable improvement by paſſing through his hands; and will doubtleſs experience an increaſed demand.

## MISCELLANIES.

We place here, for want of better opportunities to bring them in, *Mr. Smeaton's* ‡ moſt valuable reports, for which the world is indebted principally to the care and liberality of Sir Joſeph Banks. *Colonel Macdonald's* ſcientific treatiſe on *the Violoncello* § muſt here alſo find its niche. With muſic, alas, we have had but little concern as critics, ſince a celebrated profeſſor of it was diſabled from aſſiſting us. *Mr. Plumptre's* very rational attempt to purify the *Engliſh Drama* ‖, has ſhown at leaſt on what principles ſuch an undertaking ought to be conducted. We heartily join with thoſe who would correct, rather than with ſuch as would extinguiſh our Drama. The latter if it were deſirable would not be practicable; the former we conceive to be both. *Mr. Manby's* ¶ plan, for preſerving the ſhipwrecked Sailor from deſtruction, has only to be mentioned to be approved. What the value of the project for raiſing *Britiſh Lancers* ** may be, we leave to the deciſion of the military powers. The collection of political, commercial, and other *Eſſays* of which *Mr. Barker* †† has been the Editor is not without its merits, though profeſſedly in an unfiniſhed ſtate, as to the labour of the author.

* *Weſtminſter Abbey*, No. VI. p. 547. † No. II. p. 153.
‡ No. V. p. 443. § No. III. p. 271. ‖ No. III. p. 289.
¶ No. IV. p. 420. ** No. I. p. 83. †† No. VI. p. 627.

A familiar

A familiar compilation entitled *Time's Telescope* * may finally be mentioned; together with *Mr. Legh Richmond's* account of the famous *Tutbury* † imposture. And now, good reader, farewel. We are arrived at our Brundusium.

Longæ finis chartæque, viæque.

* No. VI. p. 617. † No. VI. p. 628.

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* No. VI. p. 617. † No. VI. p. 628.

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